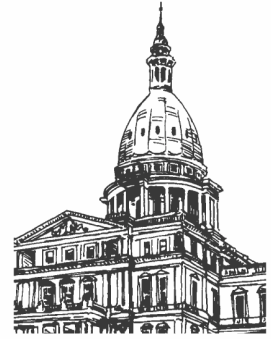


**STATE SENATOR • MARTHA G. SCOTT • 2ND DISTRICT**

# Scott Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **SENATE DEMOCRATS LEAD THE WAY IN REJUVENATING URBAN NEIGHBORHOODS**

LANSING—The state Senate today passed legislation sponsored by Sen. Martha G. Scott (D-Highland Park) that will encourage the revitalization of urban neighborhoods, making it easier for families to purchase and maintain homes in these communities.

“Detroit residents face unfair tax costs across the board,” said Sen. Scott. “This legislation would help lessen that burden.”

Senate Democrats sponsored a two-bill package that will cap property taxes for anyone who purchased a home in certain neighborhoods beginning in 1998.

Currently, Neighborhood Empowerment Zones (NEZs) are only available for new construction and rehabilitated facilities. This package of bills expands NEZs to include housing purchased after 1997.

“Making cities more viable means making home ownership more affordable. Our bills help make it possible for families to live in and invest in urban areas,” said Scott.

Under the package of bills introduced, the person buying this home could receive an NEZ certificate for a “homestead facility.” The certificate lasts 6 to 15 years and drastically cut the owner’s tax bill.

“This is a win-win for families and communities. We can encourage the upkeep of our urban neighborhoods while helping people own and maintain their own homes.”

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*Senator Scott represents the 2nd Senate District, which includes areas of Detroit and the cities of Hamtramck, Harper Woods, Highland Park and all of the Grosse Pointes. She serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee.*